



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Tuesday, Thirtieth Day of August, 2022

1. The House met at 9.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.

2. Hon. Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer.

3. MEMBERS PRESENT

All Honourable Members were present except for the Hon. Semi Koroilavesau, Hon. Rosy Akbar, Hon. Ro Teimumu Kepa, Hon. Pio Tikoduadua and Hon. Adi Litia Qionibaravi.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu, moved that the Minutes of the sitting of Parliament held on Monday, 29 August 2022 as previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Hon. Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members, those in the public gallery and those watching the live broadcast of the proceedings.

6. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(a) Standing Committee on Social Affairs

- (i) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs the Hon. Viam Pillay tabled the Committee's Report on the annual review of the

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report is initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

- (ii) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs the Hon. Viam Pillay tabled the Committee's Report on the annual review of the iTaukei Trust Fund Board (TTFB) annual report for 2019.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report is initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

- (iii) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs the Hon. Viam Pillay tabled the Committee's Report on the annual review of the Fiji National University (FNU) annual report for 2020.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report is initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(b) Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights the Hon. Alvick Maharaj tabled the Committee's review report on the Fiji Corrections Service 2017-2018 Annual Report.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report is initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(c) Standing Committee on Economic Affairs

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Vijay Nath tabled the Committee's Review Report of the Fiji Rice 2013-2017 Annual Reports.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report is initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(d) Standing Committee on Public Accounts

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts the Hon. Alvick Maharaj tabled the Committee's review findings on the Performance Audit on the Licensing and Monitoring of River Gravel and Sand Extractions.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report is initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

7. MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Hon. Speaker informed all Honourable Members that there were no Ministerial Statements.

8. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

Hon. Speaker informed all Honourable Members that there were no Bills for consideration.

9. MOTION BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Vijay Nath moved that Parliament debates the 'Consolidated Review Report of the Reserve Bank of Fiji 2018/2019, 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 Annual Reports' which was tabled on 6 April 2022.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

10. MOTION BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts the Hon. Alvick Maharaj moved that Parliament debates the 'Review of the Audit Report on Follow up of High Risk Ministries/Departments' which was tabled on 6 April 2022.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

11. MOTION BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Vijay Nath moved that Parliament debates the 'Consolidated Review Report of the Energy Fiji Limited 2019 and 2020 Annual Reports' which was tabled on 7 April 2022.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

12. SUSPENSION MOTION BY THE LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Inia Seruiratu moved under Standing Order 6 that so much of Standing Order 23(1) be suspended to allow the House to sit beyond 4.30 p.m. to complete the remaining items listed on the Order Paper.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

13. MOTION BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts the Hon. Alvick Maharaj moved that Parliament debates the 'Review of the Compliance Audit Report' which was tabled on 7 April 2022.

Motion seconded

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

14. QUESTIONS

- 146/2022 Hon. Viam Pillay asked the Minister for Education, Heritage and Arts, and Local Government – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the proposed activities of the National Trust of Fiji with funds allocated in the 2022-2023 National Budget.
- 147/2022 Hon. Mere Naulumatua asked the Minister for Employment, Productivity, Industrial Relations, Youth and Sports – Can the Minister update Parliament on the progress made by the Ministry to create employment opportunities.
- 148/2022 Hon. George Vegnathan asked the Minister for Infrastructure, Meteorological Services, Lands and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister update Parliament on the progress of the bridge replacement programme.
- 149/2022 Hon. Mikaele Leawere asked the Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the progress made by the Land Transport Authority in reducing motor vehicle accidents.
- 150/2022 Hon. Selai Adimaitoga asked the Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport – Can the Minister update Parliament on the Block Rezoning exercise that the Ministry is currently undertaking and its implications on property owners within Towns and Cities.
- 151/2022 Hon. Alvick Maharaj asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service, Communications, Housing and Community Development – Can the Minister update Parliament on the roll-out of the \$60 million inflation mitigation assistance.

Written Question

- 152/2022 Hon. Jese Saukuru asked the Minister for Infrastructure, Meteorological Services, Lands and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister update Parliament on the designation of iTaukei land to the Land Use Unit since 2018, in particular –
- (a) the total area of land designated under the Land Use Act 2010 to the Land Use Unit from the iTaukei landowners; and
 - (b) what percentage of such land has been leased and what returns have been paid out to iTaukei land owning units.

The Hon. Speaker allowed Oral Question 147/2022 to be asked on Wednesday, 31 August 2022. The responses to the Oral and Supplementary Questions were provided by the respective Ministers.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Wednesday, 31 August 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 6.02 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

30th August, 2022.